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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia REPORT NO. 25X1A

TOPIC 23d Infantry Regiment in Myrsko

EVALUATION 25X1C PLACE OBTAINED 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT prior to 11 March 1951
25X1C

DATE OBTAINED 5 June 1951

REFERENCES 25X1A

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 2-Standard Hannover Questionnaires

REMARKS An evaluation of this 25X1C is requested from Army.

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SOURCE [REDACTED]

1. Prior to 11 March 1951, the 23d "Pavla Orsaka Hviezdoslava" Inf Regt, Utvar No 1103, was stationed at Myrsko (N 50/U 99) and Bystrice (N 50/U 99). The regimental headquarters troops, some elements of the 2d Bn and the 3d Bn were in a cantonment in Myrsko; the rest of the 2d Bn in a building on the southern perimeter of the town; and the 1st Bn in the castle and monastery of Bystrice. *
2. Personalities of the regiment included Lieutenant Colonel Karel Valenta, commanding officer; Staff Captain Gregorcok, chief of staff prior to January 1951; and Captain Mlkvy, DOZ officer; Staff Captain Gregorcok was allegedly arrested after a dispute with the commanding officer and transferred to Susice (N 50/Q 28) later on. More than 50 percent of the enlisted men were Slovaks.
3. The only regimental headquarters units definitely known to the deserters were the submachine gun company of about 30 men and the technical company of about 60 men. The latter was organized into one signal-communications platoon and one engineer platoon. About 400 troops of the 1st Bn were located in Bystrice. The 3d Bn consisted of three rifle companies, one of which numbered 80 men; a heavy machine gun company of about 60 men; a mortar company; and a motor transport company of about 100 men.
4. The regiment was equipped with German model 98 rifles, Czech models 48-A and 48-B submachine guns, Czech model 26 light machine guns, Czech model 37 heavy machine guns, 82-mm and 120-mm mortars, and 45-mm guns. The infantry companies were equipped with light and some heavy machine guns. The motor transport company of the 3d Bn had about 40 Dodge and Praga-RN trucks, which were issued after June 1950. According to a driver, more trucks were to be picked up in Prague in early March 1951. The entire number of motor vehicles available to the regiment was estimated at about 80 trucks and some passenger cars. According to observations made in February 1951, the regiment had also more than 200 horses and 30 horse-drawn vehicles. **

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No Change in Class. ☐

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5. In November 1950, about 200 troops were detached to the regimental NCO school in Hamry (N 50/U 98). Signal communication courses were held in Susice. Practice alerts included a defensive alarm, upon which the troops were to defend the post and the town, and a combat alarm during which the units were assigned missions outside the town. General Bohumil Lonsky, from Susice inspected one of these practice alerts.
6. The 9th Inf Regt, stationed in Chomutov (N 51/F 02), had Utvar No 5406 on 1 March 1949. Lieutenant Colonel Jaroslav Majda was the regimental commander. About 60 men of the regiment arrived in Myrsko in November 1949. They said that the regiment was transferred from Chomutov. ***

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* ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. The 23d Inf Regt, including its disposition, equipment, Utvar number and officers, is confirmed in Myrsko.

25X1A The regiment is subordinate to the Hq 2d Inf Div in Susice.

** ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. The information on the motor vehicles is confirmed. The regiment, and possibly also the battalions, include motor transport companies capable of transporting all of the troops; with the regiment estimated at about 1,600 troops, 80 trucks would be sufficient. A previous report stated that the regiment comprised about 1,400 troops. The horses and the horse-drawn vehicles presumably serve supply purposes in the post. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 25X1A

25X1A *** ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. The following comments are made with respect to Item No 13 of Annex 2. The principal registrations for the draft in Czechoslovakia were held in February, March, and April 1951. The classes mentioned in item 13 were affected by the registration. No substantiated information on an induction in April 1951 has been obtained. With numerous officers removed during the latest purges, the induction of reserve officers was probably caused by a lack of reliable regular officers. This induction is not related to the expansion of the Czechoslovakian Army.

2 Annexes: 2 -- Standard Manpower Questionnaires.

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